



CTI Newsletter

KING COUNTY CAR THEFT INITIATIVE

June 2006 Issue

Special Bulletins:

WSATI Meeting
July 13, 2006 at Renton
City Hall at 9:30am

WSATI meetings are held
on the second Thursday of
each month at Renton City
Hall at 9:30am

In this issue:

Detective Onishi....2
Lindell Award.....2
Juvenile Booking...3
Adult Booking.....4



TOP 10 Behind Bars

The Top 10 Program has sent a number of King County's most prolific auto thieves to prison. The program was initiated by the Seattle Police Department. The mission of the program was to reduce auto theft in the Seattle area by targeting the most prolific offenders. Since the Seattle Police Department started its Top 10 Program, several other police agencies have formed their own "most wanted" list of car thieves.

On September 1, 2005, King County Prosecuting Attorney Norm Maleng joined forces with police announcing a new Car Theft Initiative targeted toward improving car theft prosecution. One aspect of the initiative was the formation of a car theft unit staffed by four experienced prosecutors.

The CTI Unit targets the "Top 10" list of high impact offenders for arrest and prosecution. The King County Prosecutor's Office and police gather information about the top offenders and distribute it to all regional police agencies. As additional crimes are solved with fingerprint evidence, the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) spreads the word to police. As of today, several top offenders have been sent to prison or are awaiting trial from their jail cell. The following are some of the top car thieves that the police and CTI have sent to prison:

Chan Aung

(Bellevue Top 10)
57 months in prison

Ryan Wade-Everett

(Bellevue / Kirkland Top 10)
84 months in prison

Vern Totemoff

(Bellevue Top 10)
119 month DOSA

Daniel Newell

(SPD Top 10)
57 months in prison

Paul Laviguer

(SPD Top 10)
50 month DOSA

Daniel Vandermeer

(SPD Top 10)
29 months in prison

Joel Williams

(SPD Top 10)
77.75 months in prison

Forrest Mullin

(Issaquah Top 10)
14 months in prison

Jody Storm

(KCSO Top 10)
22 months in prison

Clayton Burley

(SPD Top 10)
84 months in prison

Seth Germain

(SPD Top 10)
57 months in prison

Jeramy Draper

(Issaquah / Bellevue Top 10)
63 months in prison

Craig Bigler

(KCSO TOP 10)
29 months in prison

Samantha Ablacinski

(Bellevue / KCSO Top 10)
13 month DOSA

Joshua Helman

(Auburn Top 10)
50 month DOSA



Kudos to Bob Onishi



As of today, several top offenders have been sent to prison or are awaiting trial from their jail cell.

Bob Onishi doggedly put together several cases against car thief / burglar / neighborhood nuisance Michael Williams for his crime sprees in the summer and fall of 2005. Williams would prowler or steal cars at park-n-rides, use the garage door opener from the cars to enter the victims' homes, and then steal cars and other items from those residences. He also appeared to be involved in or benefiting from several commercial burglaries. Many of the stolen items were recovered in his neighborhood.

Bob developed a relationship with a neighbor who knew Williams as a local handyman who was willing to take on odd jobs around the house. She also allowed Williams to store his "tools" in a crawlspace under her home. Bob's work revealed that Williams was storing much more than tools there. Bob recovered motorbikes, a tattoo machine, firearms, and a variety of other items taken from

the residential burglaries.

After the first felony case was charged against Williams, he posted bail as set by the court and was released. Bob recognized that Williams used the title to a stolen car as collateral for bail. Bob contacted the bonding company which revoked the bond and surrendered Williams. The court learned about Williams's bail ruse when additional charges were added. Bond for all charges was reset at \$60,000. Williams was held in custody pending trial.

Williams recently pled guilty to nine felonies and was sentenced to a 78 month DOSA.

2006 Gary Lindell Award

On January 12, 2006, Western States Auto Theft Investigators - Northwest Chapter (WSATI-NW) Vice President Frank Zangar presented this year's Gary Lindell award to King County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Doug Young.

Seattle Police Detective (SPD) Gary Lindell was a founding member of WSATI-NW. A Detective from 1972-1999, Gary served a total of 34 years at SPD, and was a key contributor to WSATI and to auto theft investigation efforts as a whole. Gary spent the last years of his SPD career in their mounted unit, and retired in 1999 after he suffered life-threatening head injuries in a training accident. In 2002, complications from those injuries took his life. In commemoration of Gary's

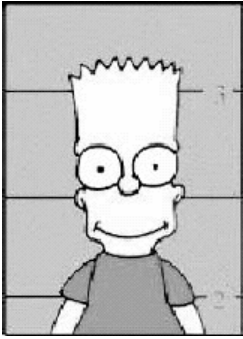
pivotal role in WSATI-NW, and his stature in the auto theft investigation discipline, WSATI-NW presents an annual award in Gary's name to a person who has made similar contributions in the auto theft area.

Doug has been an active member of WSATI-NW for many years. Doug's efforts earned him this recognition and the thanks of many. Congratulations Doug!

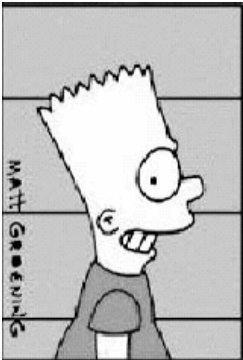


Book 'Em Danno

Understanding the King County Juvenile Detention Intake Criteria



Time and time again, we hear from police officers regarding their frustration with the King County Juvenile Detention intake booking criteria. It can become especially frustrating when it comes to car thieves, because TMV and PSP are not themselves offenses accepted by Juvenile Detention. We are currently working with the court and other parties on readdressing the juvenile booking criteria. However, you should remember that car thieves often commit other crimes, some of which are detainable.



The following is a list of "bookable" offenses often tied to car thieves. A complete listing of detention admission criteria can be found on the internet at -- www.metrokc.gov/kcsc/detention.htm.

-Residential Burglary

If the suspect obtained the stolen vehicle in a residential burglary or from an attached garage, this charge may be appropriate.

-Escape

Escape 3° requires that a suspect escape from custody. Custody includes a person being restrained after being lawfully arrested. Thus, if the suspect runs after being arrested, this charge may be appropriate.

-Possession of a Firearm

If the suspect is found to be in possession of a firearm (whether actual possession or constructive possession), this charge may be appropriate.

-Robbery

If the suspect takes a car through the use of force (car jacking) this charge may be appropriate.

-Assault 2°

If the suspect intentionally strikes or tries to strike another with the stolen vehicle, it could be considered assault with a deadly weapon and this charge may be appropriate.

-VUCSA - delivery or PWI

If the suspect is found with narcotics and there is indication that he intends to deliver (e.g. large quantity, individually packaged for sale, large sum of money, an admission, etc.), this charge may be appropriate.

-Attempting to Elude a Police Vehicle

The failure to pull over for a police car with lights and siren going does not have to be extensive for the pursuit to qualify as an elude.

Therefore, if you have probable cause to believe that the suspect committed any of the above listed offenses (or any other "bookable" offense), please list them on your Superform, supply enough facts in the probable cause statement to support charging the offenses and book him/her into detention.

Immediate booking following arrest is important for three main reasons:

- (1) the juvenile is off the street, preventing him/her from committing other crimes;
- (2) the juvenile feels an immediate effect as a result of the crime; and
- (3) the 72-hour "rush filing" process has been initiated, preventing delay in the filing of criminal charges.

(continued next page)



CTI Contact

INFORMATION

Shaya Calvo

Unit Head
Downtown Seattle
Courthouse
(206) 296-9486



Alex Voorhees

Downtown Seattle
Courthouse
(206)296-9538



Wyman Yip

Juvenile Division
(206) 205-1052



Doug Young

Regional Justice
Center (206)
205-7426



Book 'Em Danno (cont.)

Remember, even if probable cause for one of the above offenses does not exist, a juvenile could still be booked into detention for a variety of other reasons (warrants, criminal history, warrant history, identity in question, etc.).

Again, a complete listing of detention admission criteria can be found on the internet at

www.metrokc.gov/kcsc/detention.htm

Get Out of Jail Free Card

The police catch a car thief, book him in jail and the next day the car thief is released from jail. Does this sound familiar? There is a way to reduce the number of car thieves that are released from jail.

When a defendant is booked into the King County Jail, he has the right to a probable cause hearing (first appearance) within 48 hours. At the probable cause hearing, the judge usually does not have the final version of the certification for determination of probable cause. This means that the court will only consider the information on the superform that is written by the arresting officer. Several auto thieves are released at the first appearance hearing because the factual summary in the superform does not support a finding of probable cause. Please remember that it is not against the law for a person to drive or be a passenger in a stolen car. In addition to proving that the car is stolen, we must also prove that the suspect had knowledge that the car was stolen. About half of the probable cause statements

submitted by the police for auto theft bookings do not include any facts to show that the suspect knew the car was stolen.

Police must include information in the superform that supports a finding that the suspect knew the car was stolen. This could include information that that ignition was punched, the defendant admitted knowing that it was stolen, the car was recently stolen, or that the defendant gave an obviously bogus story to the arresting officer. With this in mind, please make sure that you include the knowledge element in the statement of probable cause section of the superform.

Alternative Formats

206-296-9507

www.metrokc.gov/proatty

TTY Relay: 711

